

REMARKS

Examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miller (U.S. Pat. No. 6,208,612) in view of Petrocelli (US2002/0046215). Applicant notes that Petrocelli is not citable as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102 due to the reference's date of publication relative to the filing date of the present application. Thus, Examiner's rejection is not proper.

Applicant has canceled rejected claims 1-3 and 11 without prejudice to applicant's right to resubmit such claims in a continuation or continuation in part application in the future.

Examiner objected to claims 4-10 and 12 as being dependent upon rejected claims, but allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has amended claims 4 and 12 so that each is rewritten in independent form, incorporating the elements of the canceled claims from which each originally depended. Claim 8 has been amended to refer to claim 4 as its parent claim, instead of claim 1, which has been canceled.

Claims 5-10 now depend directly or indirectly from amended claim 4.

Claims 4-10 and 12 are now in condition for allowance, and applicant respectfully requests that Examiner allow these claims to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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